

Appl. No. 10/753,974
Amdt. dated February 14, 2007
Reply to Office Action of November 21, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A disposable absorbent liner for use in a crotch portion of underwear comprising:

a cover layer having a top surface and an opposite bottom surface, the cover layer and comprising a mixture of hydrophilic microfibers and hydrophobic microfibers, wherein a quantity of hydrophilic microfibers and hydrophobic microfibers are located at the top surface and a ~~larger~~ quantity of hydrophobic microfibers ~~are located at the top surface~~ is larger than are a quantity of hydrophilic microfibers located at the top surface, based on a total weight of the mixture of microfibers in the cover layer;

a removable backing layer;

a liquid impermeable baffle layer having a top surface and an opposite bottom surface with the baffle layer being disposed between the cover layer and the backing layer; and,

wherein the absorbent liner has a low profile and an Absorbent Capacity in the range of about 2 grams to about 10 grams.

2. (Currently Amended) A disposable absorbent liner for use in a crotch portion of underwear comprising:

a cover layer having a top surface and an opposite bottom surface, the cover layer and comprising a mixture of hydrophilic microfibers and hydrophobic microfibers, wherein a ~~larger~~ quantity of hydrophobic microfibers ~~are located at the top surface~~ is larger than are a quantity of hydrophilic microfibers located at the top surface, based on a total weight of the mixture of microfibers in the cover layer;

a removable backing layer;

a liquid impermeable baffle layer having a top surface and an opposite bottom surface with the baffle layer being disposed between the cover layer and the backing layer; and,

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wherein the absorbent liner has a low profile and an Absorbent Intake Rate of less than about 30 seconds.

3. (Currently Amended) A disposable absorbent liner for use in a crotch portion of underwear comprising:

a cover layer having a top surface and an opposite bottom surface, the cover layer and comprising a mixture of hydrophilic microfibers and hydrophobic microfibers, wherein a larger quantity of hydrophobic microfibers ~~are~~ located at the top surface is larger than ~~are~~ a quantity of hydrophilic microfibers located at the top surface, based on a total weight of the mixture of microfibers in the cover layer;

a removable backing layer;

a liquid impermeable baffle layer having a top surface and an opposite bottom surface with the baffle layer being disposed between the cover layer and the backing layer; and,

wherein the absorbent liner has a low profile and an Absorbent Capacity in the range of about 2 grams to about 10 grams and an Absorbent Intake Rate of less than about 30 seconds.

4. (Original) The absorbent liner of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the top surface of the baffle layer is secured to the bottom surface of the cover.

5. (Original) The absorbent liner of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the backing layer is removably secured to the bottom surface of the baffle layer.

6. (Original) The absorbent liner of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the top surface of the baffle layer is secured to the bottom surface of the cover and the backing layer is removably secured to the bottom surface of the baffle layer.

7. (Original) The absorbent liner of claims 1 or 3 wherein the Absorbent Capacity is between about 3 grams and about 9 grams.

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8. (Original) The absorbent liner of claim 7 wherein the Absorbent Capacity is between about 4 grams and about 8 grams.
9. (Original) The absorbent liner of claims 2 or 3 wherein the Absorbent Intake Rate is less than about 20 seconds.
10. (Original) The absorbent liner of claim 9 wherein the Absorbent Intake Rate is less than about 10 seconds.
11. (Original) The absorbent liner of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the absorbent liner has Density greater than about 0.2 grams per cubic centimeter.
12. (Original) The absorbent liner of claim 11 wherein the absorbent liner has Density greater than about 0.225 grams per cubic centimeter.
13. (Original) The absorbent liner of claim 11 wherein the absorbent liner has Density greater than about 0.25 grams per cubic centimeter.
14. (Original) The absorbent liner of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the liner comprises a periphery and at least one fold line defining a central area and two side areas, wherein the liner may be adjusted in size by folding the liner along the fold line.
15. (Original) The absorbent liner of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein an underwear attaching material is provided on at least a portion of the bottom surface of the baffle layer.
16. (Original) The absorbent liner of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the cover layer is a nonwoven integral matrix of the mixture of microfibers.

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17. (Original) The absorbent liner of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the microfibers at the top surface of the cover layer are formed into elongated MD peaks and valleys spaced apart from each other in the CD.
18. (Original) The absorbent liner of claim 17 wherein the Peak-to-Valley Depth of the elongated MD peaks and valleys is between about 0.1 mm and about 0.5 mm.
19. (Original) The absorbent liner of claim 17 wherein the Peak-to-Peak Separation of the elongated MD peaks relative to the CD is between about 0.5 mm and about 3 mm.
20. (Original) The absorbent liner of claim 18 wherein the Peak-to-Peak Separation of the elongated MD peaks relative to the CD is between about 0.5 mm and about 3 mm.
21. (Canceled)
22. (New) The absorbent liner of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the hydrophilic microfibers comprise greater than 65% and up to 80% of the microfibers based on a total weight of the mixture of microfibers in the cover layer and the hydrophobic microfibers comprise the remainder of the mixture of microfibers in the cover layer.